

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 159901
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RWBAKER:JJ

APPROVED BY AF/E:RPOST

S/S-O :SRPVALERGA

-----024281 230047Z /63

O R 230010Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

S E C R E T STATE 159901

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SO, US

SUBJECT: SENDING OF U.S. MILITARY SURVEY TEAM TO SOMALIA

1. SOMALI GOVERNMENT HAS NOW REQUESTED THAT U.S. MILITARY SURVEY TEAM VISIT SOMALIA IN NEAR FUTURE. SOMALIS PROPOSED TEAM ARRIVE JULY 3; WE HAVE COUNTERPROPOSED JULY 10. CONFIRMATION NOT YET RECEIVED FROM SOMALIS BUT EXPECTED IMMINENTLY.

2. REQUEST YOUR BEST ESTIMATION OF ETHIOPIAN REACTION TO OUR SENDING OF SURVEY TEAM TO SOMALIA AT THIS TIME. WHILE WE DOUBT THAT THE PMGSE WOULD BREAK RELATIONS OVER THIS STEP, MIGHT THEY TAKE OTHER STEPS TO SHOW DISPLEASURE SUCH AS WITHDRAWAL OF AGREEMENT FOR AMBASSADOR CHAPIN?

3. REQUEST ALSO YOUR RECOMMENDATION AS TO BEST MEANS OF CONVEYING/EXPLAINING OUR DECISION TO SEND TEAM TO
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PMGSE. WOULD THE ETHIOPIANS BELIEVE US AND BE SOMEWHAT MOLLIFIED IF WE STRESSED TO THEM THAT SENDING THE TEAM BY NO MEANS OBLIGATES US TO PROCEED TO PROVIDE ARMS TO SOMALIA, EVEN OF THE LIMITED DEFENSIVE NATURE WE MIGHT BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER. WOULD THEY BE AT ALL PERSUADED IF WE SUGGESTED THAT WE LOOK UPON THE SURVEY TEAM AS ONE STEP IN WHAT MAY WELL BE A PROTRACTED PROCESS DESIGNED

TO PROVIDE INDUCEMENTS TO SIAD TO LIVE IN PEACE WITH
HIS NEIGHBORS? WE ASSUME IT WOULD BE BEST TO INFORM
ETHIOPIANS AS SOON AS FIRM DATE FOR TEAM'S VISIT IS
DETERMINED, RATHER THAN AWAITING PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF
VISIT.

4. WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO HAVE YOUR VIEWS ON THESE
QUESTIONS BY COB JUNE 23.

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PAGE 01 STATE 159901
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DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP

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S E C R E T STATE 159901

EXDIS FROM UNA

FOL RPT STATE 159901 ACTION ADDIS ABABA INFO MOGADISCIO
23 JUN 78 QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 159901

EXDIS

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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TAGS: MASS, SO, US
To: ADDIS ABABA
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